

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

17 June 1983

Mr. E. E. Lowry, Jr.  
OSD Records Administrator  
Washington Headquarters Services  
Room 5C315, The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Lowry:

Dr. Neal H. Petersen, Acting Deputy Historian, Department of State, has requested that we authorize the following historians from his office and their research assistant to have access to certain CIA-originated classified documents held at the Office of the Secretary of Defense:

David M. Baehler  
Ronald D. Landa  
Louis J. Smith

Edward C. Keefer  
Charles S. Sampson  
Suzanne E. Coffman

We understand that they are carrying out research on the Vietnam War for the Department of State's Foreign Relations of the United States series.

We have verified Top Secret clearances for these six researchers, and the Department of State will certify Messrs. Sampson's and Keefer's SCI clearances directly to you. We are therefore glad to authorize these researchers access to all CIA material at the level of their clearances or lower that is pertinent to the subject area of their research.

We shall enclose a copy of our "CIA Access Policy concerning Presidential Libraries (rev. 12 July 1977)," and we shall be grateful if you will use these instructions for Presidential Libraries as a guide to the procedure for your office. As indicated in paragraphs three and four of this policy statement, the researchers named above are free to take notes and to have copies made of documents, so long as the OSD's Declassification and History Branch collects and sends these notes and copies to this office, so that we can arrange for appropriate CIA review to determine whether this material can be released for their use. We shall notify you of this Agency's decisions with respect to all documents and notes reviewed.

We are forwarding a copy of this authorization to Dr. Neal Petersen.

With many thanks for your help,

Yours sincerely,

J. Kenneth McDonald  
Chief Historian

Enclosure

Distribution:

Orig. - Lowry/OSD  
1 - Petersen/State

1 - HS/Chrono  
1 - JKMCD

1 - Baehler/State/VN OSD